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Interviews: 506 adults  
Dates: March 17, 2003

48 Male  
52 Female  
[109]

**Results Embargoed Until  
7:00 AM on Tuesday, March 18**

FINAL

Study #6031  
NBC News/Wall Street Journal Iraq  
March 17, 2003

**Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.**

**The margin of error for 506 interviews is ±4.4%**

**Unless otherwise noted by a "+", all previous data shown reflects responses among all adults.**

1. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the job that George W. Bush is doing as president?

|                 | 3/03 | 2/03* | 1/03 | 12/02 | 10/02+ | 9/02  | High  | Low  | [137] |
|-----------------|------|-------|------|-------|--------|-------|-------|------|-------|
|                 |      |       |      |       |        |       | 11/01 | 6/01 |       |
| Approve.....    | 62   | 61    | 54   | 62    | 63     | 64    | 88    | 50   |       |
| Disapprove..... | 33   | 31    | 40   | 33    | 31     | 30    | 7     | 35   |       |
| Not sure.....   | 5    | 8     | 6    | 5     | 6      | 6     | 5     | 15   |       |
|                 | 7/02 | 6/02  | 5/02 | 4/02  | 1/02   | 12/01 | 11/01 | 9/01 |       |
|                 | 67   | 69    | 75   | 74    | 82     | 85    | 88    | 82   |       |
|                 | 27   | 23    | 18   | 20    | 13     | 11    | 7     | 12   |       |
|                 | 6    | 8     | 7    | 6     | 5      | 4     | 5     | 6    |       |

\* Overnight poll conducted after Colin Powell's speech to the United Nations.

+ Results shown reflect responses among registered voters.

I'd like to ask you a few questions about the Iraq situation.

- 2a. Do you think that the United States should or should not take military action to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq?

|                             | 3/03 | 2/03* | 1/03 | 12/02 | 10/02+ | 9/02 | 4/02 <sup>1</sup> |       |
|-----------------------------|------|-------|------|-------|--------|------|-------------------|-------|
| Should take action.....     | 65   | 60    | 56   | 59    | 60     | 58   | 57                | [139] |
| Should not take action..... | 30   | 27    | 36   | 30    | 31     | 30   | 28                |       |
| Depends.....                | NA   | NA    | NA   | NA    | NA     | NA   | 7                 |       |
| Not sure.....               | 5    | 13    | 8    | 11    | 9      | 12   | 8                 |       |

\* Overnight poll conducted after Colin Powell's speech to the United Nations.

<sup>1</sup> In April 2002, this question was phrased, "Do you think that the United States should or should not take military action against Iraq and Saddam Hussein?"

+ Results shown reflect responses among registered voters.

- 2b. Do you think that the United States should take military action against Iraq now because Iraq has had enough time to disarm, or do you think that the United States should take more time to resolve this diplomatically?

|   |    |       |
|---|----|-------|
| Should take military action against Iraq now.....                       | 61 | [140] |
| Should take more time to resolve diplomatically.....                    | 33 |       |
| United States should never take military action against Iraq (VOL)..... | 2  |       |
| Depends (VOL).....  | 2  |       |
| Not sure.....   | 2  |       |

3. Let me read you some expectations the United States might have of a war with Iraq, and for each one, please tell me whether you think that it is a realistic expectation of a war with Iraq, or is not a realistic expectation of a war with Iraq.

*THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY IS A REALISTIC EXPECTATION OF WAR WITH IRAQ*

|   | <u>Is A Realistic<br/>Expectation Of A<br/>War With Iraq</u> | <u>Is Not A Realistic<br/>Expectation Of A<br/>War With Iraq</u> | <u>Not<br/>Sure</u> |       |
|---|--|--|---------------------|-------|
| Saddam Hussein will be removed from power.....            | 79   | 15   | 6                   | [142] |
| Iraq will be disarmed of weapons of mass destruction..... | 73   | 21   | 6                   | [141] |
| The world's oil supply will be protected.....             | 51   | 36   | 13                  | [146] |
| Stability will be increased in the Middle East.....       | 44   | 46   | 10                  | [143] |
| A democracy will be created in Iraq.....                  | 42   | 44   | 14                  | [145] |
| The threat of terrorism worldwide will be reduced.....    | 42   | 50   | 8                   | [144] |

4. Which ONE or TWO of the following worry you most about the likely war against Iraq? (**ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES. IF "ALL," ASK:**) Well, if you had to choose just one or two, which would you say worry you the most?

*THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE*

|   |    |       |
|---|----|-------|
| The probability of U.S. military casualties.....                                      | 45 | [147] |
| The political and economic costs of occupying and rebuilding Iraq.....                | 21 | >     |
| The lack of support from the United Nations.....                                      | 20 |       |
| The probability of Iraqi civilian casualties.....                                     | 18 |       |
| Creating a lasting resentment in the Arab world against the United States.....        | 18 |       |
| The negative effect on United States' reputation internationally.....                 | 17 |       |
| The fact that the United States is starting the war first without being attacked..... | 13 |       |
| None/other (VOL).....   | 2  |       |
| Not sure.....   | 5  |       |

5. If the United States took military action against Iraq to remove Saddam Hussein from power, do you think that the threat of terrorism in the United States would increase, decrease, or stay about the same?

|                          | <u>3/03</u> | <u>1/03</u> | <u>12/02</u> |       |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------|
| Increase.....            | 52          | 55          | 55           | [148] |
| Decrease.....            | 16          | 10          | 9            |       |
| Stay about the same..... | 29          | 32          | 35           |       |
| Not sure.....            | 3           | 3           | 1            |       |

6. Do you think that the Bush administration has or has not adequately prepared the American people and explained the risks involved in the United States going to war with Iraq?

|  | <u>3/03</u> | <u>2/03</u> * <sup>1</sup> | <u>1/03</u> | <u>12/02</u> |       |
|--|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------|
| Has adequately prepared the American people.....     | 59          | 49                         | 40          | 43           | [149] |
| Has not adequately prepared the American people..... | 38          | 46                         | 56          | 52           |       |
| Not sure.....  | 3           | 5                          | 4           | 5            |       |

<sup>1</sup> Prior to February 2003, the question was phrased, "Do you think that President Bush . . ."

\* Overnight poll conducted after Colin Powell's speech to the United Nations.

**FACTUALS:** Now I'm going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

- F1. How old are you? (IF "REFUSED," ASK:) Well, would you tell me which age group you belong to?

|                  |    |                  |
|------------------|----|------------------|
| 18-24.....       | 9  | <b>[151-152]</b> |
| 25-29.....       | 8  |                  |
| 30-34.....       | 8  |                  |
| 35-39.....       | 8  |                  |
| 40-44.....       | 10 |                  |
| 45-49.....       | 13 |                  |
| 50-54.....       | 11 |                  |
| 55-59.....       | 9  |                  |
| 60-64.....       | 5  |                  |
| 65-69.....       | 6  |                  |
| 70-74.....       | 4  |                  |
| 75 and over..... | 8  |                  |
| Refused.....     | 1  |                  |

- F2. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an independent, or something else? (IF "DEMOCRAT" OR "REPUBLICAN," ASK:) Would you call yourself a strong (Democrat/Republican) or not a very strong (Democrat/Republican)? (IF "NOT SURE," CODE AS "NOT VERY STRONG DEMOCRAT/REPUBLICAN." IF "INDEPENDENT," ASK:) Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party, closer to the Republican Party, or do you think of yourself as strictly independent?

|                                  |    |              |
|----------------------------------|----|--------------|
| Strong Democrat.....             | 20 | <b>[153]</b> |
| Not very strong Democrat.....    | 10 |              |
| Independent/lean Democrat.....   | 7  |              |
| Strictly independent.....        | 20 |              |
| Independent/lean Republican..... | 6  |              |
| Not very strong Republican.....  | 9  |              |
| Strong Republican.....           | 20 |              |
| Other.....                       | 4  |              |
| Not sure/nothing.....            | 4  |              |

F3. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

|  |    |           |
|--|----|-----------|
| Grade school.....                                | 1  | [154-155] |
| Some high school.....                            | 5  |           |
| High school graduate.....                        | 26 |           |
| Some college, no degree.....                     | 18 |           |
| Vocational training/2-year college.....          | 8  |           |
| 4-year college/bachelor's degree.....            | 25 |           |
| Some postgraduate work, no degree.....           | 2  |           |
| 2-3 years postgraduate work/master's degree..... | 10 |           |
| Doctoral/law degree.....                         | 4  |           |
| Not sure/refused.....                            | 1  |           |

F4. Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be liberal, moderate, or conservative?

|                   |    |       |
|-------------------|----|-------|
| Liberal.....      | 18 | [156] |
| Moderate.....     | 44 |       |
| Conservative..... | 34 |       |
| Not sure.....     | 4  |       |

F5a. Are you from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background?

|                       |    |       |
|-----------------------|----|-------|
| Yes, Hispanic.....    | 8  | [157] |
| No, not Hispanic..... | 91 |       |
| Not sure/refused..... | 1  |       |

F5b. What is your race--white, black, Asian, or something else?

|                       |    |       |
|-----------------------|----|-------|
| White.....            | 78 | [158] |
| Black.....            | 9  |       |
| Asian.....            | 3  |       |
| Other.....            | 2  |       |
| Hispanic (VOL).....   | 7  |       |
| Not sure/refused..... | 1  |       |